of arms and ammunition from a cargo container cleared from the Jawahar Port in Mumbai both by the port and customs authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether any inquiry has been held into the matter; and

(d) if so, whether the involvement of the port/customs staff has been established and if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those found involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) On 21.05.2005, Crime Branch of Mumbai Police seized 34 foreign made revolvers, 3 pistols, one silencer and 1283 live cartridges from a cargo container at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.

(c) and (d) A case under various sections of Arms Act, 1959 and Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999 has been registered. Investigation by the Mumbai Police has so far not revealed involvement of port/customs staff in the matter.

[1814. *WITHDRAWN]*

Effective management of Indo-Nepal border

† 1815. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any action-plan for effective management of Indo-Nepal border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have sent any proposal of an action plan in this regard for the approval of Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) In order to manage India-Nepal border effectively, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has been deployed as a border guarding force.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

All the State Governments bordering Nepal including Uttar Pradesh had submitted a proposal for strengthening border policing and intelligence infrastructure in their States. Since the items covered in the Action Plans were almost identical to the items included in the existing scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF), it was decided that requirements of the State Governments concerned would be met from the funds being provided annually under MPF scheme.

Escaping of mastermind of Ayodhya attack

1816. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations into the Ayodhya Shrine attempted attack case reveal that the mastermind of the fidayeens, the Commander of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has now crossed over to Pakistan;

(b) whether this reported escape of the king-pin of the attack to a safer place across the border is likely to hamper further investigations;

(c) whether the fidayeens had visited Akbarpur considered a safe haven because of well entrenched network of ISI-Lashkar-e-Tayyeba operating from there for sometime; and

(d) what is the present status of investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Investigations are still in progress in the case of terrorist attack on Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Complex at Ayodhya on 5th July, 2005. The investigations undertaken so far have revealed that the terrorists made a preparatory stay for sometime at Akbarpur prior to the attack. Five persons have so far been arrested in this case. The links of the terrorists with their mentors from across the border cannot be ruled out.

Involvement of SIMI in Ayodhya attack

† 1817. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any evidence of involvement of the banned outfit SIMI in Ayodhya bomb attack;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.